

***2010 Edward Byrne Memorial
Justice Assistance Grant (JAG)
Kentucky State Application
Program Narrative***

Justice Assistance Grant (JAG) funds awarded to the Commonwealth of Kentucky in 2010 will be awarded to subgrantees to fund projects that will improve the functioning of Kentucky's criminal justice system within the guidelines of the JAG Program.

The Kentucky Justice and Public Safety Cabinet (JPSC) serves as the primary criminal justice policy and oversight agency in the Commonwealth. Its member agencies represent much of the criminal justice community and include: Department of Criminal Justice Training, Department of Public Advocacy, Department of Corrections, Kentucky State Police, and Department of Juvenile Justice. Although prosecution and courts are represented by other agencies (Attorney General's Office and Administrative Office of the Courts, respectively), JPSC works closely and cooperatively with them through a variety of forums, especially the Criminal Justice Council.

The Criminal Justice Council is established in statute to serve as an advisory body to the Secretary of the Justice Cabinet on matters related to criminal justice. When charged by the governor with recommending improvements to the state's criminal justice system, the Council published "Criminal Justice Reform: Review of Kentucky's Criminal Justice System," delineating statutory, administrative and policy recommendations that became the basis for comprehensive legislative efforts and internal agency improvements (<http://justice.ky.gov/NR/rdonlyres/BDCF06C8-EA6D->

Additionally, the JPSC houses the state's Statistical Analysis Center (SAC), providing direct access to analysis and evaluation of issues of concern.

Past strategic planning efforts of the Criminal Justice Council resulted in substance abuse being identified as the primary priority for Edward Byrne Memorial Formula Grant funds. Priorities were determined through the participation of agencies identifying funding needs and deficits and community participants' (in various forums) input about the problems they were facing. This priority has remained through the transition to Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant funds. Given current substance abuse data and resource limitations, we do not anticipate change in this area in the foreseeable future.

In addition to multi-jurisdictional drug task forces, Kentucky will focus on portions and/or combinations of the following priorities: education and prevention concerning drug and alcohol use, treatment and alternatives to incarceration, and enforcement and prosecution improvement projects.

Prevention

Goals: Interrupt inappropriate behaviors, redirect behavior outcomes, incorporate families in the process. Expand community knowledge of substance abuse.

Objectives: Increase emphasis on demand reduction. Assess public education against program efficacy and cost. Expand projects that increase awareness of underage use of alcohol, tobacco, drugs and adult substance abuse. Expand projects that target juveniles for treatment and family-inclusive approaches.

Intervention

Goals: Modify offender behavior and reduce recidivism and prison overcrowding.

Objectives: Implement projects that address the critical need for compliance with treatment. Implement structural changes that promote accountability in the interface between treatment providers and the justice system. Expand drug courts and other alternatives to incarceration (tailored to specific needs of communities). Enhance offender assessment and treatment for adults and juveniles at all stages of the criminal justice system. Expand drug treatment resources for female offenders. Share expertise and resources across disciplines. Expand existing treatment services and resources. Develop family-inclusive approaches. Increase effective models to deal with juvenile treatment needs. Conduct comprehensive outcome evaluations of treatment measures.

Enforcement

Goals: Make the enforcement arm of this holistic approach as strong as possible to deal with drugs, violence, marijuana eradication, and related issues.

Objectives: Enhance resources and strategies that include prescription drugs and marijuana eradication. Enhance projects that focus on increased offender accountability.

Programs selected for funding will be required to meet criteria from one of the seven purpose areas as outlined in the JAG solicitation. Programs may include, but not be limited to:

- Multi-Jurisdictional Drug Task Forces
- Drug Eradication Programs, both state and local
- Law Enforcement Programs
- Prosecutorial Based Programs/Initiatives
- Drug Court Initiatives
- Corrections and Community Corrections Programs
- Offender Re-Entry Programs
- Offender Rehabilitation
- Community Crime Prevention and Substance Abuse Education Programs
- Youth Prevention and Education Programs
- Technology and Records Improvement

- Crime Victim and Witness Programs (other than compensation)
- Other Allowable Programs

Kentucky will focus future Justice Assistance Grant strategic planning efforts around the single largest funding category – multi-jurisdictional drug task forces (DTFs). DTFs are currently funded from a mix of JAG and other federal grants, forfeiture, and local funds, with occasional state funds provided as supplements in the past. DTF program funding has become increasingly difficult to maintain in light of the state's economic challenges; therefore, Kentucky will seek to improve the return on its investment of state and federal funds, while encouraging improved utility of local and forfeiture funds.

After conclusion of the 2010 application cycle, JPSC staff will begin preparing DTFs for related planning efforts, with a goal toward funding primarily evidence-based practices and activities in the 2011 funding cycle. The Cabinet Secretary, SAC Research Coordinator, Grants Branch Manager, and Executive Director of the Office of Drug Control Policy recently attended National Criminal Justice Association (NCJA) training in this area, and will formulate a plan for development and future funding requirements in this area after NCJA's national conference in August. DTFs will be given specific expectations and training in required areas for improvement. At this time, it is anticipated that best practices and performance targets, modeled on the High Intensity Drug Trafficking Area (HIDTA) approach, will become the basis for future DTF funding.

JPSC has accepted and reviewed applications for the 2010 JAG grant and will make awards by the end of June, 2010. Grant awards will be approved for one year. Once subawards have been made, a detailed report of programs funded through this grant will be forwarded to the Bureau of Justice Assistance (BJA).

JPSC will insure compliance with the pass through requirement that designates 35.16% of Kentucky JAG funds to go to local units of government. JPSC will also insure that federal funds are used to supplement existing funds for program activities and not replace or supplant nonfederal funds that have been appropriated for the same purpose. There will be a 25% cash match required for all JAG funds provided through JPSC and compliance with all applicable federal guidelines will be enforced.

JPSC's electronic grants management system and Kentucky's accounting system have adequate components and controls in place to insure the proper tracking of all funds transactions. JPSC will submit all financial and programmatic reports, performance measurement data, and subgrant information as required by the Bureau of Justice Assistance.

In addition, Grants Management Branch (GMB) staff will provide ongoing assistance to subrecipients and perform monitoring visits to insure subrecipients' compliance with all JAG special conditions and provisions. These monitoring visits will give GMB staff first hand knowledge of the specific details of each project and, at the same time, foster a good working relationship between the branch and subgrantees.